

**Transportation Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, February 17, 2010 – 8:15 A.M.  
McHenry County Division of Transportation  
Main Conference Room  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098**

Chairperson Anna May Miller  
Ed Dvorak      Paula Yensen  
Virginia Peschke      Daniel Ryan  
Sandra Salgado      Scott Breeden

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Chairperson Miller, Paula Yensen, Daniel Ryan, Virginia Peschke and Sandra Salgado

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Ed Dvorak and Scott Breeden

Virginia Peschke arrived at 8:18 A.M.

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

In attendance were: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joe Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer; Cynthia Schaupp, SAO/Division of Transportation Liaison; Mark Mathewson, MROWCO; Charles Eldredge, MCEDC; Brian Smith, AECOM; Robert Rollings, Bollinger, Lach & Associates, Inc.; Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake; P. J. Fitzpatrick, Wills, Burke, Kelsey Associates, Ltd.; Gary Blazek, Civiltech Engineering, Inc.; Todd Bright, TranSystems Corporation; Omar Nashif and Matt Rempfer, Collins Engineers, Inc.; Glenn Schirmer, Chastain & Associates; John Ambrose, Baxter & Woodman, Inc.; Steve Pasinski, Thomas Engineering Group; John Clark, STV, Inc.; Todd Nelson, McHenry County Bicycle Advocates (MCBA); Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation, Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Lenny Ackerman, Division of Transportation, Road Section; Wally Dittrich, Division of Transportation, Design Manager; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation, Construction Manager; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation, Permit/Developer Project Manager; Jason Obsorn, Division of Transportation, Principal Transportation Planner; Sarah Lutz, Division of Transportation, Transportation Planner; Chalen Daigle, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation, Administrative Specialist.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Todd Nelson represented the McHenry County Bicycle Advocates (MCBA) and addressed issues concerning the Rakow Road project regarding bicycle accommodations.

Virginia Peschke arrived at 8:18 A.M.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – January 20, 2010**

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the meeting minutes of January 20, 2010 were approved as presented.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”; motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS**

***Spring Grove Drainage***

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff provided the Transportation Committee with an update on the County’s ongoing drainage improvement project on Main Street in the Village of Spring Grove. On June 2, 2009, the County Board approved an agreement with Christopher Burke Engineering Ltd. to begin design work on replacing a cross road culvert and associated drainage system repairs. MCDOT staff has been coordinating

with the Village of Spring Grove on this project and will provide an update on the proposed recommendations for addressing the drainage issue as well as a potential solutions to the “parking area” issues on Main Street that have come up from time to time over the years.

Mr. Dittrich addressed the following issues:

- The evaluation of repairs to the cross culvert, the head wall and the drainage system
- The storm sewer system underneath the shoulder of the road
- Residential homes’ and businesses’ sump pumps presently tapped into the drainage system
- The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and the McHenry County Health Department advise that the current connections are acceptable, provided that they are “clear water” connections

The MCDOT staff’s scope of project and recommendations are:

- Replacement of the under road culvert and field tile
- Replacement of the storm sewer with residential connections with the cooperation of the Village of Spring Grove making this a joint project
- Replacement of the head wall
- Reconstruct the shoulder and sidewalk
- A letter of intent (LOI) / intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Village of Spring Grove

Discussions ensued and the Committee concurred with the MCDOT’s recommendations.

#### ***Rakow Road***

McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff presented a follow up to the March 4, 2009 direction by the Transportation Committee to modify the plans for the Rakow Road project to include a 14-foot outside lane for the occasional on-road cyclist in response to a request and petition from the McHenry County Bicycle Advocates (MCBA). Also, at the May 20, 2009 Transportation Committee meeting, MCBA presented additional information and additional requests based on the March 4, 2009 direction to MCDOT staff from the Transportation Committee.

The MCDOT staff’s recommendations are:

- Maintain the current plan with 12-foot inside lanes and 14-foot outside lanes
- Maintain provisions for future side path

It was the consensus of the Committee to support the MCDOT staff and their decisions and to move forward with the present plan.

Discussions ensued and the Committee concurred with the MCDOT’s recommendations.

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT AMENDMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE WALKUP ROAD PROJECT**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of a resolution approving an engineering agreement amendment and appropriating funds for the Walkup Road project between Illinois Route 176 and Bull Valley Road.

Walkup Road will be widened from its current two (2) lanes to three (3) lanes with additional turn lanes and traffic signals at selected intersections. The original contract with Teng and Associates, Inc. for \$1,328,224.00 was approved on February 7, 2006 for the Phase II engineering services and an intergovernmental agreement (IGA). A supplement in the amount of \$499,636.42 was approved on January 6, 2009 to facilitate breaking out a segment of the project into a separate contract due to construction funding limitations. The project is being funded with Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funding.

The need for a supplement in the amount of \$638,828.95 is to cover the past costs incurred by Teng and Associates, Inc. as directed by staff to perform the following items: water main design and retaining wall design on Contract 1

(Live Oak Road to Crystal Springs Road). This supplement will also cover future work associated with updating the plans and creating separate bid packages (if necessary) for Contract 2 (Crystal Springs Road to Bull Valley Road) and Contract 3 (Walkup Road at Illinois Route 176 intersection and associated bike path construction). This brings the total value of the Phase II contract to \$2,466,689.37. As some of the costs in this supplement are attributable to the City of Crystal Lake, the County will be reimbursed approximately \$54,000.00 under a separate IGA amendment, which will be brought forward at a later date.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the resolution approving an engineering agreement amendment and appropriating funds for the Walkup Road project was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

**AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR FY2010 TREE REMOVAL MAINTENANCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests approval of the resolution appropriating funds for the FY 2010 tree trimming and removal contract.

The MCDOT has recognized the need for an emergency tree removal and tree trimming contract in the case of a catastrophic storm event such as the case on January 6, 2008 when a tornado struck the town of Lawrence. Retaining a contractor and fixed unit prices within this contract will protect the County from paying inflated prices and securing a contractor during an emergency. The MCDOT staff has also identified the need for tree removal that is out of the scope of the MCDOT Vegetation Section due to limitations with existing equipment and staff time. Having this flexibility will permit County resources to be better utilized.

The contract bid includes the option to continue the service on an annual renewal basis for up to three (3) consecutive years if so desired. Approval of funds for subsequent years is brought forward each year to the Transportation Committee and County Board for approval.

For FY 2009, \$30,000.00 was budgeted and \$27,450.00 was spent. The Davey Tree Expert Company was used two (2) times last year, once in the spring and once in the fall. All the removals were very large trees, ranging in diameter from 42” to 57”. They removed a total nineteen (19) trees. There were no emergency calls required.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the award of contract for FY2010 tree removal maintenance and appropriating funds was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR THE MODERNIZATION AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS FOR U.S. ROUTE 12 AT WILMOT ROAD/JOHNSBURG ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the State of Illinois for improvements to the U.S. Route 12 intersection with Wilmot Road.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has prepared plans to modernize the existing traffic signal at the U.S. Route 12/Wilmot Road intersection. Per standard IDOT cost participation agreements, the State requests reimbursement from the local agencies having jurisdiction of the local legs.

Wilmot Road, which is under the jurisdiction of the MCDOT, is one out of the four (4) legs of the intersection. As such, the County’s cost responsibility is 2.5% (¼ of the local match). IDOT has two (2) legs and Burton Township has the other leg.

The cost to the MCDOT is \$337.50 for engineering and \$2,250.00 for construction for a total of \$2,587.50. Should the actual costs be greater, the intergovernmental agreement stipulates that the MCDOT is responsible for 2.5% of the project.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the resolution approving an IGA with the State of Illinois for the modernization and maintenance of traffic signals for U.S. Route 12 at Wilmot Road/Johnsburg Road and appropriating funds was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE ALGONQUIN ROAD INTERSECTION WITH ILLINOIS ROUTE 47 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving an intergovernmental (IGA) with the State of Illinois for improvements to the Illinois Route 47 intersection with Algonquin Road and appropriating funds.

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has prepared plans to widen Illinois Route 47 from Kreutzer Road to Reed Road which includes the intersection of Algonquin Road. IDOT’s project will complete the portion of the Algonquin Road intersection that the MCDOT’s project was unable to, due to the timing of both projects. Per standard IDOT cost participation agreements, the State requests reimbursement from the local agencies having jurisdiction of the local legs.

Algonquin Road, which is under the jurisdiction of the MCDOT, is one (1) out of the four (4) legs of the intersection. As such, the County’s cost responsibility is 5.0% (¼ of the local match). IDOT has two (2) legs and the Village of Huntley has the other leg.

The cost to the MCDOT is \$1,950.00 for engineering and \$13,000.00 for construction for a total of \$14,950.00. Should the actual costs be greater, the IGA stipulates that the MCDOT is responsible for 5.0% of the project.

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the IGA with the State of Illinois for improvements to the Algonquin Road intersection with Illinois Route 47 and appropriating funds was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS’ PROGRAM FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER’S ANNUAL SALARY**

Mr. Austin requested the Committee’s approval of the resolution authorizing the continued participation in the State of Illinois’ Program for Reimbursement of the County Engineer’s annual salary.

The County has entered into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the State of Illinois regarding reimbursement of the County Engineer’s salary. The State sets forth recommended salary ranges for all County Engineers in an effort to ensure that those who are overseeing the County’s portion of the State’s road network are compensated at an amount that ensures high quality County Engineers throughout the State.

The County Engineer’s salary was set on December 1, 2009 as all Department Heads’ salaries were with a 2% increase, which was the average non-union increase. This IGA affords that the County will receive half of the salary dollars back from the State.

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the resolution authorizing continued participation in the State of Illinois’ Program for Reimbursement of the County Engineer’s annual salary was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes”; motion carried.

**PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

The report was offered but not discussed.

Mr. Korpalski did note however that Kishwaukee Valley Road is closed with detours in place and that the structure has been removed. This project is on an accelerated completion date of June 15, 2010.

**OLD BUSINESS**

***Engineering News Record (ENR) – Article***

Mr. Korpalski made the Committee aware of an article published in the ENR that discusses a second stimulus program and whether it would be worthwhile or not. According to the ENR, the construction jobless rate climbed to 24.7% in January 2010, its highest level since 2000. The industry lost 75,000 jobs last month according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, sending construction unemployment to a ten (10) year high.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***2010 APWA Award – Loader Competition***

The 2009 Chicago Metro Chapter AWPWA Loader Competition was held on May 20, 2009 at the APWA Public Works Expo, at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center.

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) was represented by three (3) of our maintenance staff in the Loader Competition. The competition consists of a written exam and a loader operating course with eight (8) loader skills. Of the thirty eight (38) contestants in the competition, one of our own, Lenny Ackerman finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Lenny was recognized and presented with a plaque for his accomplishment at the Chicago Metro APWA Holiday Luncheon on December 10, 2009. The winner of the local competition then moves on to the National AWPWA Loader Competition, which this last year was held in Colorado.

Lenny Ackerman has been a valued employee of the MCDOT since 1999. Lenny currently is assigned to the road crew where his operating skills are utilized on a daily basis. Whether Lenny is replacing culverts or ditching with the MCDOT's backhoe, loading trucks or moving snow, he always does an excellent job. Lenny's other responsibilities include plowing snow during the winter season and the care and maintenance of the MCDOT's salt dome conveyor.

***Paper Usage***

Mr. Peter Austin conveyed that the "Green Team" was created in the fall of 2008 working to conserve County resources.

He noted that a number of changes have been put in place concerning County paper usage. It was noted that major paper consumption is in the creation of committee packets, to which the Transportation Committee is a major paper user. He suggested, experimentally, that attachments from the Transportation Committee packets, when going to the County Board for approval, be removed from hard copy versions. The resolutions will still be provided, and the attachments will be available online. The Transportation Committee concurred with this paper reducing proposition.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – Land Acquisition and Meeting Minutes**

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the Committee went into Executive Session at 9:05 A.M. to discuss land acquisition and review meeting minutes.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

**REGULAR SESSION**

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the Committee went into Regular Session at 10:12 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

Chairperson Miller noted that "no action" was taken in Executive Session.

The Executive Session Meeting minutes of January 20, 2010 were reviewed and by direction of the Committee will be forwarded to the State's Attorney Office (SAO) for review and release.

Ms. Yensen requested that a “Members Comments” section be added to the agenda upon returning to Regular Session after exiting Executive Session.

Ms. Yensen commented that she had attended the McHenry County Defenders Focus Group in the Village of Algonquin recently and that two (2) main issues of focus were transportation and water.

Ms. Yensen referred the focus group to the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT), offering a contact phone number and requested that MCDOT staff provide the focus group with a CFI (Continuous Flow Intersection) presentation.

Ms. Salgado noted that she had attended the first TAG (Technical Advisory Group) meeting in the Village of Richmond regarding the Richmond bypass. She stated that one-half of the attendees were in favor of keeping the project as developed in the Feasibility Study.

**NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION**

8:15 A.M. on March 3, 2010 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting “aye”; motion carried.